# BEFORE THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS

#### FOR THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:

MICHAEL J. COHN, Ed.D.

Holder of License No. 1219 For the Practice Psychology In the State of Arizona

Licensee

Case No. 13-10

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND CONSENT AGREEMENT FOR SURRENDER OF PSYCHOLOGIST LICENSE

In the interest of prompt and judicious settlement of the above-captioned matter before the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners ("Board") and consistent with public interest, statutory requirements and responsibilities of the Board, and pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061 et seq. and A.R.S. § 41-1092.07(F)(5), Michael J. Cohn, Ed.D., ("Respondent") holder of License No. 1219 for the practice of psychology in the State of Arizona and the Board to enter into this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender ("Consent Agreement") as the final disposition of this matter.

# **JURISDICTION**

- 1. The Board is authorized to regulate the practice of psychology in the State of Arizona pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 32-2061, *et seq.*, and the rules promulgated thereunder, found in Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C." or "rules) at R4-26-101 *et seq.*
- 2. Licensee is the holder of license number 1219 for the practice of psychology in Arizona. His license is currently suspended pursuant to a Consent Agreement and Interim Order for Suspension of License entered into with this Board executed May 23, 2013.
- 3. The Board has personal and subject matter jurisdiction over Licensee pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061 *et seq*.

#### 

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 4. On March 27, 2013, Respondent was arrested and charged with first-degree murder in connection with the death of his wife, Linda Cohn.
- 5. While incarcerated and awaiting his trial in Maricopa County, Respondent signed a Consent Agreement and Interim Order for Suspension of License. Based upon evidence of danger to the public health and safety pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2081(G) and 41-1092.11(B), the fully executed Interim Order was effective May 23, 2013.
- 6. On November 25, 2013, Respondent plead Guilty to Second Degree Murder a Class 1 felony and Domestic Violence Offense (A.R.S. § 13-1104, 3601, 701, 702, 710, 801) in the death of his wife, Linda Cohn, on or about March 27, 2013.
- 7. On February 21, 2014, Respondent was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment with the Arizona Department of Corrections.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 8. The Board of Psychologist Examiners of the State of Arizona possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and Michael J. Cohn, Ed.D.
- 9. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute a violation of A.R.S. § 32-2061(i) for "commission of felony, whether or not involving moral turpitude, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. In either case, conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction or a plea of no contest is conclusive evidence of the commission."

### **CONSENT AGREEMENT**

## Respondent understands and agrees that:

10. The Board has jurisdiction over the Respondent and the subject matter pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-2061 *et seq*.

- 11. The Respondent has the right to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Consent Agreement. He has read and understands the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order and Consent Agreement and makes this agreement freely and voluntarily. He irrevocably waives his right to a hearing, rehearing, or judicial review or any other appeal of this matter.
- 12. Respondent has a right to a public hearing concerning this matter. He further acknowledges that at such a formal hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. The Respondent irrevocably waives his right to such a hearing.
- 13. The Consent Agreement shall be subject to the approval of the Board and shall be effective only when accepted by the Board and signed by the Board's Executive Director. In the event that the Board does not approve this Consent Agreement, it is withdrawn and shall be of no evidentiary value and shall not be relied upon nor introduced in any action by any party, except that the parties agree that should the Board reject this Consent Agreement and this case proceeds to hearing, Respondent shall assert no claim that the Board was prejudiced by its review and discussion of this document or any records thereto.
- 14. The Consent Agreement, once approved by the Board and signed by the Respondent, shall constitute a public record which may be disseminated as a formal action of the Board and shall be reported to the National Practitioner's Databank.

#### **ORDER**

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties agree to the provisions and penalties imposed as follows:

15. Upon the effective date of this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender, the Respondent's license (#1219) for the practice of psychology in the State of Arizona shall be surrendered. Once the surrender is effectuated, Respondent shall not practice psychology

in the State of Arizona or hold himself out as a licensed psychologist in the State of Arizona. The effective date of this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender is the date the Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender is accepted by the Board as evidenced by the signature of the Board's Executive Director.

- 16. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender as set forth herein, and has had the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender with an attorney or has waived the opportunity to discuss this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender for the purpose of avoiding the expense and uncertainty of an administrative hearing.
- 17. Respondent understands that he has the right to a public administrative hearing concerning each and every allegation set forth in the above-captioned matter, at which administrative hearing he could present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. By entering into this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender, Respondent freely and voluntarily relinquishes all rights to such administrative hearing, as well as all rights of rehearing, review, reconsideration, appeal, judicial review or any other administrative and/or judicial action, concerning the matters set forth herein. Respondent affirmatively agrees that this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender shall be irrevocable.
- 18. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender, or any part thereof, may be considered in any future disciplinary action against him or in any future decision regarding re-licensure.
- 19. The parties agree that this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender does not constitute a dismissal or resolution of other matters currently pending before the Board, if any, and does not constitute any waiver, expressed or implied, of the Board's statutory authority or jurisdiction regarding any other pending or future investigation, action or proceeding.

1	Respondent also understands that acceptance of the Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender
2	does not preclude any other agency, subdivision or officer of this state from instituting other civil
3	or criminal proceedings with respect to the conduct that is subject of this Consent Agreement for
4	Voluntary Surrender.
5	20. Respondent understands that the foregoing Consent Agreement for Voluntary
6	Surrender shall not become effective unless and until adopted by the Board of Psychology and
7	executed on behalf of the Board. Any modification to this original document is ineffective and
8	void unless mutually approved by both parties in writing.
9	21. Respondent understands that this Consent Agreement for Voluntary Surrender is a
10	public record and may be publicly disseminated as a formal action of the Board.
11	
12	DATED this day of August, 2014.
13	ARIZONA BOARD OF
14	PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS
15	Muhul O Get Cuider O liver
16	Michael J. Cohn, Ed.D.  Licensee  Cindy Olvey, Psy.D.  Executive Director
17	
18	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this
19	day of August, 2014, with:
20	The Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners 1400 West Washington, Suite 235 Phoenix, Arizona 85007
21	Filoelia, Arizolia 83007
22	COPY of the foregoing mailed by Certified mail No. 7009 3250 0002 7170 7452
23	this day of 2014 to:
24	Michael J. Cohn, Ed.D Address of record

i	
1	COPY of the foregoing sent by interagency/regular mail this and day of
2	Jeanne M. Galvin, Assistant Attorney General
3	Office of the Attorney General, Civil/LES 1275 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007
4	By: MAME Clim
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	